

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/584,308

Examiner

Justin I. King

Applicant(s)

FERNALD ET AL.

Art Unit

2111

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/19/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14 and 16-45.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 December 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) ✓
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Gopal C. Ray
GOPAL C. RAY
PRIMARY EXAMINER
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DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-14 and 16-45 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Referring to claim 1: The prior arts on record all have one deficiency, that is the ability to connect each input signal to all of the output signals. The prior arts on record utilize a memory arbitration system. There are provided two input ports having a priority associated therewith for connection to a single input of a memory. The arbitration is such that the input signal can have a priority associated therewith such that one input signal may have priority over the other one. All of prior arts' inputs are connectable to a single output. Therefore the limitation in the claim wherein the number of designations which the high priority signals are connectable to is lower than the number of destinations which the low priority signals are connectable to is not disclosed or explicitly taught by the prior arts on record.

Referring to claims 2-13: Claims are allowable because they incorporate parent claim's allowable subject matter.

Referring to claim 14: The prior arts on record all have one deficiency, that is the ability to connect each input signal to all of the output signals. The prior arts on record utilize a memory arbitration system. There are provided two input ports having a priority associated therewith for connection to a single input of a memory. The arbitration is such that the input signal can have a priority associated therewith such that one input signal may have priority over the other one. All of prior arts' inputs are connectable to a single output. Therefore the

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limitation in the claim wherein the number of designations which the high priority signals are connectable to is lower than the number of destinations which the low priority signals are connectable to is not disclosed or explicitly taught by the prior arts on record.

Referring to claim 16: Claim is allowable because they incorporate parent claim's allowable subject matter.

Referring to claim 17: The prior arts on record all have one deficiency, that is the ability to connect each input signal to all of the output signals. The prior arts on record utilize a memory arbitration system. There are provided two input ports having a priority associated therewith for connection to a single input of a memory. The arbitration is such that the input signal can have a priority associated therewith such that one input signal may have priority over the other one. All of prior arts' inputs are connectable to a single output. Therefore the limitation in the claim wherein the number of designations which the high priority signals are connectable to is lower than the number of destinations which the low priority signals are connectable to is not disclosed or explicitly taught by the prior arts on record.

Referring to claims 18-31: Claims are allowable because they incorporate parent claim's allowable subject matter.

Referring to claim 32: The prior arts on record all have one deficiency, that is the ability to connect each input signal to all of the output signals. The prior arts on record utilize a memory arbitration system. There are provided two input ports having a priority associated therewith for connection to a single input of a memory. The arbitration is such that the input signal can have a priority associated therewith such that one input signal may have priority over the other one. All of prior arts' inputs are connectable to a single output. Therefore the

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limitation in the claim wherein the number of designations which the high priority signals are connectable to is lower than the number of destinations which the low priority signals are connectable to is not disclosed or explicitly taught by the prior arts on record.

Referring to claims 33-35: Claims are allowable because they incorporate parent claim's allowable subject matter.

Referring to claim 36: The prior arts on record all have one deficiency, that is the ability to connect each input signal to all of the output signals. The prior arts on record utilize a memory arbitration system. There are provided two input ports having a priority associated therewith for connection to a single input of a memory. The arbitration is such that the input signal can have a priority associated therewith such that one input signal may have priority over the other one. All of prior arts' inputs are connectable to a single output. Therefore the limitation in the claim wherein the number of designations which the high priority signals are connectable to is lower than the number of destinations which the low priority signals are connectable to is not disclosed or explicitly taught by the prior arts on record.

Referring to claims 37-45: Claims are allowable because they incorporate parent claim's allowable subject matter.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Justin I. King whose telephone number is 703-305-4571. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on 703-308-3110. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

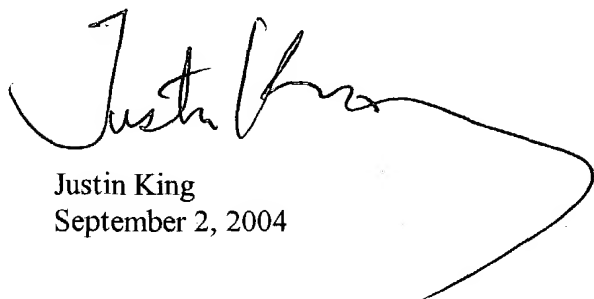
Lastly, paper copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications will cease to be mailed to applicants with Office actions as of June 2004. Paper copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature will continue to be included with office actions. These cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are available for download via the Office's PAIR. As an alternate source, all U.S. patents and patent application publications are available on the USPTO web site (www.uspto.gov), from the Office of Public Records and from commercial sources. Applicants are referred to the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at <http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/index.html> or 1-866-217-9197 for information on this policy. Requests

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to restart a period for response due to a missing U.S. patent or patent application publications
will not be granted.



Justin King
September 2, 2004

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